

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 13 as follows:

Referring back to Figure 2, in step 105, the user selects a desired indicator. Once an indicator is selected, the user is presented with a page at step 110 including a list of conversations about the particular story or topic associated with the indicator that was selected. Figure 4 illustrates an exemplary page 300 including a list of conversations associated with indicator 210 of Figure 3. Preferably, the list includes a comment 310 (or comments eopments) presented by the user who started the conversation (the “conversation starter”). Each comment may be presented as text, or it may be presented as a text link. Additional information 320 may be presented in lieu of, or in association with, the comments. Such additional information 320 is preferably determined by the conversation starter, and may include the user ID of the conversation starter, the gender, age, geographic location, political affiliation, or profession, etc. of the conversation starter, or any other pertinent information that may be useful in determining whether to try to join a conversation. In one embodiment, the conversation list includes only “open” conversations. Open conversations include conversations that may still be joined. For example, a conversation starter may have recently closed a conversation or may have indicated when starting a conversation that it be closed when a certain number of other users are joined.